

GERMAN REPORT

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NOW ROCKETS!

The West German Government is now proposing to equip the new Wehrmacht with many types of ballistic rockets, West German Defence Minister Franz Josef Strauss announced on November 14th. The West German Wehrmacht was interested in four different types of rockets, three of which could be equipped with atomic warheads, he stated. He said that "at the moment" it not had been decided whether atomic warheads should be provided.

The London "Times", reporting the Defence Minister's press conference under the threatening headline: "No Nuclear Weapons for Bundeswehr Yet" (in which the word "Yet" was obviously most important) reported Herr Strauss as saying "The Bundeswehr must have these rockets if its armoury

is not to be obsolete". West Germany was prepared to help in rocket research and development.

On the same date Henri Spaak, General Secretary of NATO, called for the issue of atomic weapons to all NATO states, including West Germany.

Military experts in Berlin stressed that West Germany's renunciation of atomic warheads "for the moment" was of little or no practical importance, since most of the rocket types now demanded for the West German Wehrmacht could be converted to use atomic charges within hours, if not minutes, and the American forces in West Germany are already stock-piling atomic warheads there, ready for use at a moment's notice.



"Preparedness" Amongst the Heavenly Host

This impressive photomontage was made in 1935 by John Heartfield, inventor of the political photocartoon, recently awarded the National Prize of the German Democratic Republic

"TRIBUNE" PROTESTS

The British and American Governments have decided on their reply to Sputnik. They intend to get West Germany to manufacture guided missiles and nuclear weapons.

The Germans are banned from such action by the Paris Treaties, signed 1954. This document was pushed through the Parliaments of the West, often by questionable means.

Its parents were Anthony Eden, Harold Macmillan (then Foreign Secretary), Guy Mollet and company. And here in Britain, its virtues were trumpeted by Hugh Gaitskell, Herbert Morrison and Clement Attlee, among others.

German rearmament was necessary (remember?) so that the West could negotiate from strength with Russia. And those who opposed it were denounced as irresponsible.

The plan to break the Paris agreement was hatched between Macmillan and Eisenhower in Washington. German scientific brains are needed, they claim, to help in the race to manufacture intercontinental guided missiles which — unlike the American model — really work.

Adenauer is coming to London to talk it over on December 3. Then a NATO Council meeting, attended by all the heads of member-Governments, will be held in Paris on December 17. And, as a Christmas present, we may be told that we have found a new formula for peace in our times: Germany is to build her own bombs.

There is still time for the British Labour Party to raise a howl of protest.

("Tribune", London, November 8)

BIGGER SLICE OF CAKE FOR LOW-PAID WORKERS

Wage Scales to be Re-jigged in East Germany

Pay differentials in East Germany are to be decreased by rises in pay for the lowest paid categories of workers, and a cut-back in the earnings of high-bracket officials in the administration and industry is envisaged, Deputy Prime Minister Walter Ulbricht has announced.

Walter Ulbricht, who is also the First Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party, made the announcement at a meeting of the Central Committee of the Party in Berlin late in October.

Details of the far-reaching wage reforms would have to be worked out in great detail by the government in cooperation with the trade unions, he stated. He envisaged that the final elimination of food rationing (meat, fats and sugar are still rationed in the German Democratic Republic, ed.) would give a good opportunity for a thorough revision of wage rates and differentials.

"This will give us the opportunity to achieve a better distribution of the national income, to increase the proportion received by the working class, and particularly by the lowest-paid sections of the workers" Walter Ulbricht stated.

"It will also provide a chance to remove various injustices and disproportions in the wage system which offend against the principle of payment by results, and thus form an obstacle to the further increase of productivity. The present differential between the top wage group and the bottom wage group can be reduced by the cancellation of the bottom wage categories, and it will be possible to introduce a children's allowance to make up for the advantages at present offered by the ration cards for children (the present system of children's ration cards, providing considerable quantities of very cheap food for families with children, are in fact a sort of 'invisible' children's allowance, ed.)

"The abolition of the food rationing system, although it will be accompanied by higher food prices, will thus lead to a rise in the standard of living of those workers with low incomes. At the same time a certain reduction in the high salaries of leading officials in the administration and industry should be envisaged.

"The relevant branches of the government, together with the Free German Trade Union Federation,

should work out a precise programme for the development of the wage policy in the coming years. This programme should give all workers the certainty that in future the wages of the workers should develop with priority over the earnings of other sections of the population. The programme should also ensure that the wages of workers in different branches of industry should develop in a just relation; that a proper relation should be found between piece-work pay and time pay; and that the differential between the upper and the lower rates of pay should be decreased."

Walter Ulbricht gave some examples of the way in which disproportions in earnings had arisen in the past few years. Between 1950 and 1955, for instance, average workers' earnings had increased by 68%; during the same period craftsmen and tradesmen had increased their earnings by 123%. Similar disparities had appeared between the actual earnings of various categories of workers: coal miners should earn the highest wages of all, according to legal wage scales, but their actual take-home pay only gave them fifth place. Workers in light engineering should have the thirtieth place in the order of earnings, but their actual take-home pay, swollen by high piece-rates and overfulfillment of norms, had given them first place in the list.

In connection with the general development of industrial production, Walter Ulbricht emphasised that in the next few years it would be necessary to increase production without employing more workers, owing to the fact that the birth-rate during the war and the first post-war years had been abnormally low, and that fewer new entrants would be available to swell the labour force.

At the same meeting of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party Bruno Leuschner, Democratic Germany's Planning Chief, outlined the programme for the development of industry in the next three years, up to and including 1960. During this period industrial production should rise at an average rate of six percent annually, he stated. The main task would continue to be the expansion

of basic industries, the planning chief stated. "We need more electric power, more coal and coke, more steel and non-ferrous metals, and more chemicals. The engineering industry must increase its production in order to meet the demands of basic industries, to supply high-quality consumer goods, and expand exports" he said.

Since the German Democratic Republic is dependent to a large extent on imports of steel and other raw materials, it was absolutely necessary to ensure the utmost economy in the use of such materials, and to explore every possibility of using substitutes. 41% of all investments in the next three years would be devoted to industry, 10% to agriculture, 17% to housing, and 12% to transport.

The big investments in agriculture should ensure that by the end of 1960, 70% of all agricultural work would be mechanised.

The investment in housing would make it possible to provide 230,000 new housing units (flats or houses). Bruno Leuschner emphasised that it was necessary to keep the size of the average flat down to a floor space of 64 square yards; recently there had been a tendency to exceed this maximum, but a continuation of this policy would make it impossible to provide sufficient housing units.

New Harbour for Rostock

A huge harbour project to make the Baltic port of Rostock capable of handling 10,000 ton freighters is one of the biggest projects of the present Five Year Plan of the German Democratic Republic.

At present Rostock can only handle ships of up to 3000 tons, and a large part of Democratic Germany's import and export trade has to be handled through the West German port of Hamburg, with consequent big expenditures in hard currencies. By 1960, the end of the Five Year Plan, it is planned that the new Rostock Harbour will be able to handle between one million and one-and-a-half million tons annually. Later expansion should give the harbour a capacity of 20 million tons yearly.

ADENAUER'S CABINET

Nazis, Storm-Troopers, Wehrmacht Officers

A first analysis of the new West German cabinet, constituted on October 28th 1957, shows that every single member did well for himself during the nazi period.

Two of them were nazi party members, three served in the SA, Hitler's brown-shirted bully boys, and five were officers in the Wehrmacht. Others held responsible positions in industry and law.

Only two of the eighteen have any claim at all to have "suffered" under nazism: these are Adenauer himself, whose "suffering" was confined to his being down-graded from Lord Mayor of Cologne, with a very fat salary, to retired Lord Mayor with a slightly less fat pension; and Heinrich Luebke, Minister of Agriculture, who was imprisoned — apparently by mistake — for a few weeks early in the nazi period, but later served happily as an official in the nazi municipal administration of Berlin.

Here is a full listing of the new cabinet.

Chancellor: Konrad Adenauer, CDU, moving force of West German remilitarisation, renazification.

Foreign Minister: Heinrich v. Brentano, CDU, practised as lawyer during nazi period.

Minister of Interior: Gerhard Schroeder, CDU, former nazi storm trooper.

Defence Minister: Franz Josef Strauss, CDU, former nazi officer.

Economics Minister: Ludwig Erhard, CDU, economic researcher during nazi period.

Finance Minister: Franz Etzel, CDU, lawyer and nazi officer during nazi period.

Treasury Minister: Hermann Lindrath, CDU, former storm trooper and nazi party member.

Minister of Justice: Fritz Schaeffer, CDU, sacked in 1945 by American authorities as "nazi sympathiser".

Minister of Agriculture: Heinrich Luebke, CDU, former nazi municipal official.

Labour Minister: Theodor Blank, CDU, nazi officer, founder of new West German Wehrmacht.

Minister of Communications: Hans Christoph Seebohm, DP, foundry owner, enriched himself during Hitler period by grabbing foreign factories.

Post Minister: Richard Stuecklen, CDU, nazi officer.

Housing Minister: Paul Luecke, CDU, nazi officer.

Refugees Minister: Theodor Oberlaender, CDU, former storm troop major and "Reich Leader of Federation of Germans in the East".

Minister for Atomic Power: Siegfried Balke, CDU, company director, chairman of Association of Bavarian Chemical Industry.

Minister for All-German Questions: Ernst Lemmer, CDU, practised journalism throughout nazi period.

Minister for Family Affairs: Franz Josef Wuermeling, CDU, prominent industrialist in Cassel during the Hitler period.

Bundesrat Minister: Hans Joachim von Meerkatz, DP, member of the nazi party.

EX-NAZI MINISTER

Nazi Party Member No. 3,997,157

This is the portrait of one of Dr. Adenauer's ministers in the new West German cabinet — Dr. Hermann Lindrath, member of the Christian Democratic Union, who heads the newly created Treasury Ministry.

Dr. Lindrath is in many ways typical of the solid unsensational German official, who served faithfully first Kaiser Wilhelm, and then Hitler, and who is today serving faithfully in the Adenauer state.

He was born in 1896, and volunteered for service in World War One, quickly winning two iron crosses. After the war he qualified

as a lawyer and banking expert, and from 1927 until the end of World War Two in 1945 he held a series of leading positions in the municipal administration of the city of Halle.

Since Halle now lies in the German Democratic Republic, the personal files of this civil servant are available for inspection, and they give an interesting insight into Dr. Lindrath's activities during the nazi period. In 1933, the year Hitler came to power, he joined the Stahlhelm, an extreme nationalistic organisation of ex-servicemen which allied itself with the

(cont. on next page)



Note the nazi party badge on Dr. Lindrath's lapel

EX-NAZI MINISTER

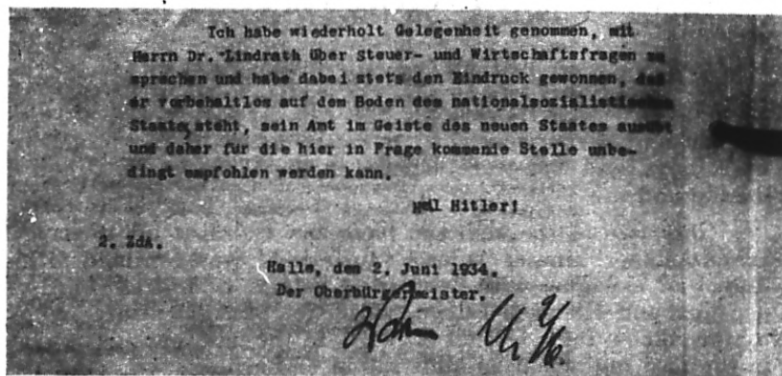
(cont. from preceding page)

nazi party. In 1934, he became a member of Hitler's brown-shirted storm troops: and in 1937 he finally took the plunge and became a fully-fledged member of the nazi party.

His adhesion to the nazi party is shown by the small photostat on this page, which states:

"This is to inform you that I am registered as Party Member under Membership No. 3,997,157 from May 1st 1937.

(signed) H. Lindrath
Tax director"



Dr. Lindrath's boss recommends him as "unconditional" supporter of nazism

Another interesting document from Dr. Lindrath's personal file, a photostat of which is available in our office, shows that in February 1943, well on in World War Two, Dr. Lindrath was travelling round the Halle district holding lectures entitled "National Socialist Tax Policy in Wartime".

After Hitler had been defeated in 1945, Dr. Lindrath, in common with all other civil servants, had to fill out a questionnaire on details of his nazi affiliations. He promptly forgot some of his personal history, but he did remember to state that he had been a member of the nazi party, adding anxiously "I am not in possession of a party card, and was not sworn in to the Party".

In answer to the question as to his publications, speeches or lectures during the nazi period, he had a complete blackout on the series of lectures which he had held on "National Socialist Tax Policy in Wartime", and declared that he had never held any political lectures.

After the war Dr. Lindrath, like so many of his fellows, found the atmosphere in East Germany uncongenial, and he left for West Germany. In 1953 he was elected to the West German Parliament. When the time came for him to write his autobiography for the West German Parliamentary Handbook he had suffered a further blackout: although his autobiography was one of the longest in the whole book, naming in great detail all the various posts he had held during his life, he had com-

pletely forgotten his membership in the storm troops and the nazi party.

Today this Dr. Lindrath is a member of Chancellor Adenauer's cabinet, one of the eighteen men who govern the most powerful state in western Europe.

Dr. Lindrath was not a leading nazi, and there is no evidence that he was involved in any war crimes or crimes against humanity. But the facts given above show that he was a true and trusted supporter of the nazi state. He has never gone on record as rejecting his nazi past. Is there any place for such men in the government of a state, which is today allied with Britain, France and the other western countries which once vowed to break nazism and German militarism once and for all?

(Personalamt.)

Ich teile mit, dass ich
ab 1. Mai 1937 unter
Nr. 3.997.157
als Parteimitglied geführt
werde.

H. Lindrath
Steuerdirektor.

4

7. 1. Munde in Personalbogen.

Dr. Lindrath's signature on declaration of nazi party membership

But already three years earlier, the nazi Lord Mayor of Halle had given him a recommendation (the large photostat on this page) which testified to his nazi sentiments:

"I have repeatedly availed myself of the opportunity to speak with Dr. Lindrath on problems connected with taxation and economics, and have always received the impression that he stands unconditionally on the side of the National Socialist State, carries out his duties in the spirit of the new state, and can therefore definitely be recommended for the post in question.

Heil Hitler!

(signed) Lord Mayor
Halle, June 2nd 1934."

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PARLIAMENTARY WHO'S WHO

Biographical Notes on West Germany's M.P.s

On this and the following pages we present more short biographical details on members of the newly-elected West German Parliament. Particular attention has been paid to activities of members during the nazi regime. A first list of biographies was published in GERMAN REPORT dated October 25th, a free copy of which will gladly be supplied on request. Further biographies will appear in an early issue.

Abbreviations

CDU = Christian Democratic Union.

DP = German Party.

FDP = Free Democratic Party.

ACHENBACH, Ernst

FDP. During the war chief of political department at nazi embassy in occupied Paris. Former member of nazi party. Recommended "deportation to the east" of 2,000 Jews as reprisal for resistance attack. (Telegram to Berlin Foreign Office, February 15th 1943).

ADELMANN, Count Raban

CDU (new member). Official in Ribbentrop's Foreign Ministry during the nazi period.

BAUSCH, Paul

CDU. Member of Reichstag 1930 to 1933, affiliated with Reichstag fraction of nazi party; voted for the Enabling Laws of May 1933 which gave Hitler dictatorial powers. Official in Wuerttemberg Provincial Government during nazi period.

BUCERIUS, Gerhard

CDU. Director of four large companies. Served as lawyer throughout nazi period.

BURGBACHER, Fritz

CDU (new member). During nazi period was partner in Dresdner Bank which helped finance Hitler, member of boards of directors of electric power supply and other industrial enterprises.

DEMMELEMEIER, Hans

CDU. Practised law during the nazi period. 1940—1944 nazi officer.

DOWIDAT, Otto

FDP (new member). Former member of the nazi party.

EILERS, Johann

FDP (new member). Successful business man, on boards of directors of housing, gas companies and savings bank during nazi period.

ERHARD, Ludwig

CDU. Minister for Economic Affairs. Occupied prominent position as economic

researcher during Hitler period.

FINCKH, Hermann

CDU. Manufacturer. Represented family woollen textile firm in Near and Middle East during nazi period. 1941—1945 nazi officer.

FURLER, Hans

CDU. Practised law, lectured in Karlsruhe Institute of Technology and held financial administrative post during nazi period. Now chairman of Montan Union.



AT A BONN RECEPTION

"I've been wanting to tell you all evening, Sir, that I won this Iron Cross on the eastern front, of course"

("Simplicissimus", West Germany)

... WHO'S WHO IN PARLIAMENT ...

GEDAT, Gustav Adolf

CDU. Opinion: "It is true that Germany has the decisive role in forming the future of the Western world. The victory of National Socialism in Germany will show the peoples of the West the road which they must take in order to save themselves." (from "A Christian Sees World Problems", published 1935 by J. F. Steinkopf, Stuttgart).

GERNS, Heinrich

CDU. Retired Luftwaffe colonel, fought in both World Wars.

GLEISSNER, Franz

CDU. Lecturer in Munich Institute of Technology during nazi period. 1940—1945 nazi officer.

GOLDHAGEN, Wilhelm

CDU. Employed in Schleswig-Holstein provincial administration during the nazi period. 1943 deputy nazi mayor of Hamburg.

GRADL, Johann Baptist

CDU (new member). During nazi period was executive official of Association of German Savings Banks and Clearing Houses, manager Reich Bankers' Group.

HELLWEGE, Heinrich

DP. Minister of Bundesrat Affairs 1953—1956. Opinions: "The Communists, the Social Democrats and the Trade Unions must be smashed" (speech in Hamburg, January 18th 1953); "Germany was always a bulwark against Asia — the hour of proving has come. We need the strong arm of a Wehrmacht so that we can pass the test." (at German Party Conference, Hamburg May 30th 1953).

HOECK, Wilhelm

CDU. Held important positions in industry during nazi period. 1941—1945 director of Research Institute of Brunswick Steel Works.

HOOGEN, Matthias

CDU. Practised law in Krefeld provincial court during nazi period. 1942 to 1945 nazi military court prosecutor, final rank general staff judge.

HORN, Peter

CDU. World War I participant. Held important business posts throughout the nazi period.

KIESINGER, Kurt Georg

CDU. Lawyer, practised in Berlin under nazis from 1935—1945. Opinion: "There is no such thing as remilitarisation. We are living in a new epoch, the European defence community has nothing at all to do with remilitarisation". (Parliamentary debate, February 8th 1952).

KLIESING, Georg

CDU. Officer in nazi Wehrmacht.

KOPF, Dr. Hermann

CDU. Practised law in Freiburg throughout the Hitler period. Member of the General Assembly of European Community for Coal and Steel.

KREITMEYER, Reinhold

FDP. Colonel in nazi Wehrmacht.

LEMMER, Ernst

CDU. Minister for All-German Questions. Chairman of West Berlin CDU. 1933—1945, Berlin correspondent of foreign newspapers. 1924 to 1933 Member of Reichstag, voted for Enabling Laws, May 1933, which gave Hitler dictatorial powers.

LEVERKUEHN, Paul

CDU. 1939 Supreme Army Command. 1940 Consul in Tabriz, Persia. 1941 sent by Foreign Ministry to Paris. 1941—1942 assistant to military attache in German Embassy, Turkey. 1944 legal plenipotentiary of German Weapon and Munition Works. 1948 defence counsel in case against Supreme Wehrmacht Command in Nuremberg. Publications include: "German Military Intelligence", London 1954, Weidenfeld and Nicolson.

LINDENBERG, Heinrich

CDU. Lawyer in Hannover provincial court throughout nazi period. 1943 to 1945 also member of board of directors of Braunkohle-Benzin Co., Berlin.

LINDRATH, Hermann

CDU. Treasury Minister. Lawyer and banking expert. World war I participant. Lecturer in Halle University, 1933—1945. Now partner in Heidelberg Portland Cement Works.

LOEHR, Walter

CDU. Responsible for special questions of chemical production in nazi War Ministry; worked prin-

cipally with IG Farben concern. Since 1946 manager of Association of Chemical Industries.

LUECKER, Hans August

CDU. 1939—1945 nazi officer awarded War Service Cross, Iron Cross 1st and 2nd Class.

MAJONICA, Ernst

CDU. Nazi officer.

MATTHES, Heinz

DP. World War I participant. Opinion: "We of the German Party have from the beginning held high the flag of real soldierliness... In the name of the German Party I must state quite categorically: German soldierhood in its entirety is quite above all attacks on its honour". (Parliamentary debate, June 28th 1955)

MENDE, Erich

FDP. 1939—1945 nazi officer, promoted to regimental commander. Awarded Knight's Cross, German Cross in Gold. Opinion: "It is an absolute fairy-tale to say that Germany has ever been warlike. Germany only took part in eight per cent of all the wars in the world between 1800 and 1940... We shall have to see to it that we can use the three or four hundred thousand survivors of the Waffen SS in the New Wehrmacht." (Parliamentary debate, February 24th to 28th 1955.)

MEYER, Philipp

CDU. Member of Synod of Bavarian Evangelical Church. Former nazi party district leader.

MISCHNICK, Wolfgang

FDP (new member). Nazi officer. Awarded Iron Cross 1st and 2nd Class.

MUESER, Franz, Josef

CDU. World War I participant. Practised law during the Hitler period. Member of board of directors of Bochum Cast Steel Works, Carolinen-Gluck Mines, Graf Moltke Mines, Rhine-Westphalian Housing Company and West German Housing Company in Essen, on the committee of the Employers' Association of the Iron and Metals Industry and chairman of the Legal Committee of the German Industrial and Trades Council.

... WHO'S WHO IN PARLIAMENT ...

NEUBURGER, August

CDU. 1933—1939 practised law; later nazi officer.

PFERDMENGES, Robert

CDU. Banker, director of 42 companies, personal friend and adviser of Adenauer. Richest man in West Germany. Laid foundations of fortune by "aryanising" Jewish-owned Cologne banking house of Oppenheim under nazis. Named as war criminal on list of "industrial criminals" drawn up in 1945 by Kilgore Committee of US Senate.

PREISS, Ludwig

DP. Worked for IG Farben during Hitler period. 1940—1945 nazi officer.

RASNER, Will

CDU. 1939—1945 officer in nazi Wehrmacht. Awarded Iron Cross 1st Class.

SCHARNBERG, Hugo

CDU. World War I participant. Unbroken connection with the Dresdener Bank, which financed Hitler, since 1923. Chairman of Hamburger Kreditbank. Brother-in-law of Franz Etzel, newly appointed Finance Minister.

SCHEEL, Walter

FDP. 1939—1945 fought in nazi Luftwaffe, final rank 1st Lieutenant. Awarded Iron Cross 1st Class and 2nd Class.

SCHNEIDER, Heinrich

FDP (new member). Former nazi party member.

SCHRANZ, Helmut

DP. Member of the nazi party since 1925. Lord Mayor of Offenbach 1934 to 1944. Interned as dangerous nazi from 1945—1948.

SEIDL, Franz

CDU. Practised law during nazi period. 1940—1945 nazi officer.

SPIES, Josef

CDU. Held administrative post from 1928 to 1939. Nazi officer 1939—1945. Opinion: "Even if the Pope were against conscription I should vote for it." ("Deutsche Volkszeitung", Dusseldorf, August 11th 1956.)

STARKE, Heinz

FDP. Law court assessor during nazi period. Captain in nazi Wehrmacht.

STAUCH, Robert

CDU. Mayor of town of Katzenelnbogen throughout nazi period and again since 1948.

STRAUSS, Josef

CDU. Defence Minister 1955—1957. Served as Wehrmacht officer in France, Italy and the Soviet Union. Opinion: "The Prussian officer is the ideal type of German" (speech on June 29th 1952).

VOGEL, Rudolf

CDU. Journalist in Berlin throughout nazi period. Nazi officer 1940 to 1945. Opinions: "The Poles are sub-human" ("Friedrichshafen-Tagblattes Verbo Seebblatt", November 9th 1939).

WEBER, Dr., Karl

CDU. Practised law in Koblenz district and provincial courts during nazi period. Nazi officer 1939—1945.

WILLEKE, Friedrich

CDU. Mayor of Marl throughout the nazi period.

WITTMER-EIGENBRODT, Kurt

CDU (new member). Officer in 1st and 2nd World Wars. Opinions: "The achievements of the NSDAP were in many ways not so bad, and one could wish for a Goebbels for the present government." (Frankfurter Rundschau, March 20th 1951).

WUERMEILING, Franz Josef

CDU. Minister for Family Questions. Lawyer. Worked as civil servant until 1936, then in leading position in an industrial concern in Cassel. Opinion (May 1954): "As Catholic Christians we know that we are better than the heathens who surround us."

ZOGLMANN, Dr., Siegfried

FDP (new member). Former member of the nazi party and Hitler youth district leader.



"Hitler Means War" was the original title of this up-to-the-minute photomontage by John Heartfield originally published in 1934

FOUR YEARS FOR PHONEY SPY

W. Berlin Sentence on "Spy Who Didn't"

A West Berlin court has sentenced a man to four years imprisonment because he was not a western spy. The accused, Heinz Stephan, a West Berliner, was found guilty on charges of swindling, because he had sold to various West German and allied espionage services "information from the east" which he made up out of his own head. Political observers in Berlin were certain that if he had been a genuine spy no action would have been taken against him. Evidence was given in the course of the trial that Stephan, a former SS officer and member of the Gestapo, had sold his fairy stories to the personal office of West German Chancellor Adenauer, to the West Berlin authorities, to the spy organisation "Fighting Group Against Inhumanity"

to western allied espionage agencies, and to western newspaper correspondents. All his information was false, it was shown in court, and the "original documents from East Berlin" which he had sold to some of his customers had been typed on his own personal typewriter.

A significant fact, revealed by evidence given in court, was that most of his customers, including West German officials, knew perfectly well that Stephan was a former Gestapo man, but that they had regarded this as a recommendation.

The West German newsmagazine "Spiegel" disclosed on January 27th 1954 that Stephan was a swindler, but this had not prevented official and semi-official organisations in

West Berlin from continuing to buy his stories.

The main reason for bringing Stephan finally to justice appeared to be that he had supplied western organisations with lists of alleged "eastern spies" which contained the names of more than 150 perfectly respectable West Berlin citizens against whom Stephan had some sort of a grudge.

(In the past, GERMAN REPORT has frequently warned readers against accepting at face value newspaper reports on East Germany coming from "well-informed sources" in West Berlin. This trial has shown that one of these "well-informed sources" was in fact Gestapo-man Stephan. Many others of his type are still in business.)

ANTI-SEMITIC OFFICIAL REHABILITATED IN BONN

A leading nazi official who played a prominent part in the deportation of Jews to eastern Europe during the war, has now been restored to office in the West German Foreign Ministry, a Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed in Bonn on November 13th.

The official, Dr. Otto Braeutigam, was suspended from his post as head of the East European Department of the West German Foreign Ministry in January 1956, after the publication of extracts from his wartime diary had disclosed the part he played in nazi anti-Semitic activities.

A special commission was established to investigate his wartime activities. This commission, despite all the documentary evidence available, has now announced that the "charges were groundless", and has cleared Dr Braeutigam from any blame. In his diary, the authenticity of which has never been questioned, Braeutigam describes how, on September 14th 1941 he rushed to Hitler's headquarters "to get the Fuehrer's approval" for the project to deport all Jews from central Europe, and how he later returned to his quarters "glad to have been able to carry out the mission".

Further details of Braeutigam's wartime crimes can be found in "The Trial of German Major War Crimi-

nals", Vol. XII, His Majesty's Stationery Office PS 3666, in the documents of the Nuremberg Trial, reference no. PS 3319, and in the documents of the Wilhelmstrasse Trial, reference no. NG 4817.

An extensive translation of Braeutigam's wartime diary was published in GERMAN REPORT dated March 2nd 1956. A free copy of this issue will gladly be supplied on request.

Big Orders at Cairo Fair

Big orders for East German industry were booked at the Industrial Exhibition of the German Democratic Republic which has just closed in Cairo. Orders for East German optical equipment, machine tools, tractors and other items totalled more than six million Egyptian pounds. In return the German Democratic Republic placed orders for 5.7 million pounds, mainly for cotton.

During the course of the fair Heinrich Rau, East German Foreign Trade Minister, visited Cairo and had talks with Egyptian leaders, including President Nasser.

Longer National Service for West German Soldiers

The national service period in West Germany will be increased from 12 to 15 months next year, a government spokesman stated in Bonn on November 13th.

East German Coffee Cups for Arabian Prince

A nationally-owned East German factory is at present working on a special order: a coffee service for a Saudi Arabian prince. The special service, which is being made in the Graf Henneberg Porcelain Factory in Ilmenau, is decorated in gold with the monogram of the customer, one of the sons of King Saud.

Airline Agreement

Lufthansa, the air company of the German Democratic Republic, has concluded an agency agreement with the Indian airline "Air India International". This new agreement, together with other agreements previously concluded with such important international lines as KLM means that Democratic Germany's Lufthansa is now directly connected with world airlines flying routes totalling about 600,000 miles.

GROWING PAINS IN NEW INDUSTRIAL PROJECT

"It is difficult to build new people"

Work on the construction of Europe's biggest soft coal combine, the "Black Pump" near Hoyerswerda in the German Democratic Republic, began in summer 1955 and is proceeding according to plan. When it is finished — in 1965 — it will have four huge open-cast mines producing over one hundred thousand tons of coal daily, a central processing plant with a daily coke production of tens of thousands of tons, millions of cubic metres of gas, hundreds of thousands of kilowatts of electricity and quantities of synthetic petrol, tar and raw materials for plastics. By 1959, according to present plans, the first subsidiary plants, an electric power station and a soft coal briquette plant, will be in operation.

A new town for over 25,000 inhabitants is being built at the same time, across the river from the little town of Hoyerswerda, which is about fifteen miles away from the combine, so that workers need not live in an atmosphere tainted by the fumes of a huge chemical plant.

A correspondent of "Junge Welt", Free German Youth organisation daily, recently spent three days at the combine, looking into the working and living conditions of the thousands of young men and women employed there. His first impression was of "people, amongst cranes and shovel cranes, heavy trucks and tip-ups, sacks of cement and stacked timber, look like ants crawling over this enormous building site; but they are masters of what is growing up here. The work is no game. There are difficulties and hindrances. The work being done here is, without exaggeration, magnificent . . . We take off our hats to the workers and we know that in 1965 the biggest soft coal combine in Europe, a new socialist works, will stand here."

But his second impression — not so favourable — is of young workers drinking, smoking and playing cards, cracking vulgar jokes, in one after another of the state-owned restaurants; he even saw a few obvious prostitutes in one of them — until late at night, although they would have to be at work again at six o'clock the next morning. ". . . Are new, socialist people growing up with this new, socialist combine?" he asks; "Is it only the landscape which is changing here, or are people changing too?"

"Of course these are many examples of good work and behaviour

which show that the socialist consciousness of many people is growing. But it cannot be said of all. We feel that it is not enough that soft coal is to be processed here in a few years; it is even more important that the builders of this industrial giant should also be processed — in their thinking, their needs, their mutual relationships and their moral attitudes. That is why we write openly here about what is rotten, for it will not help to remain shamefacedly silent about it — and least of all will it help the five thousand young workers whose class consciousness has here and now to be formed.

"Are these young people worse than in other parts of our Republic? Here are some impressions which appear characteristic of most of them:

"A young track-laying brigade told us openly that they want to earn money, but that they also like to work; but what sort of muddle is it that keeps the whole brigade idle all day simply because the wire rope they need is not available? They grumble about unproductive work, about contradictory instructions and about bad organisation of work. But they grumble and criticise because they want things to go forwards.

"They caught a thief while we were there. He had gone off with stolen goods to West Berlin and then came back to collect his things; but the workers caught him in time. Most of these crimes are discovered by the workers. They want things to be done properly on their construction site.

"Many of the girls would like to take sewing and cooking courses in their spare time, to take up some kind of handiwork or to hear talks on the care of children. The boys would like to do practical scientific work; they do not only want to be invited to cultural performances, but would like to do something themselves. But, as they say, 'if there's nothing going on, we just have to get drunk'."

"There are without doubt black sheep here — work-shy lads who only want to skim off the cream — but the big majority of these young workers are in order. They are no worse than anywhere else. But since they are to live in a socialist world they must grow up into young socialists. And in spite of all the positive things that can be said, most of them

are very far from being socialists. We looked around to find out whether the influences which work on them here provide a guarantee that they will develop into socialists.

"... When foremen and other qualified older workers, who were already doing responsible work under capitalism, behave here pretty much as they behaved before it is difficult for young workers to understand that they are working under changed conditions. It is not to be wondered at that they lend a willing ear when older work-mates tell them how they managed in capitalist concerns and still use pretty much the same methods here, because their way of thinking has hardly changed. The pay-pocket is the main thing and good work is done for the sake of the money and not because of a socialist consciousness.

"Of course, signs of the new times are to be found too. A young worker can spend his free time in many ways; he can take music lessons, go to the cinema or to the book bazaar. There is even a cabaret company, 'The Hornets', but they seem to have forgotten to use their sting against their own work.

"There are seven houses of culture, a central library and two sports stadiums in the new town; but in Hoyerswerda itself things look pretty gloomy. The hostel club-rooms are badly supplied and some even have no books or radios.

"If all this is to be changed — and it must change — the first step must not be to buy more television sets, books or radios; far more could be done with what is now available if the most advanced workers would make use of it in the right way. There are plenty of examples of Free German Youth groups working splendidly together during the day, but we did not see a single brigade spending its evening together . . . or trying to help other young people who have got into bad habits.

"The position amongst older organised workers is not much better. Functionaries, too, are mainly interested in getting work done on time. They have done splendidly in this, but we cannot afford any longer to ignore the fact that however difficult it is to build up a great enterprise like the 'Black Pump', it is even more difficult to build new people."

(from "Junge Welt", October 29th 1957)

A TRIP ROUND E. GERMANY

By Arthur Skeffington, Labour M.P. for Hayes

The entirely new town of Stalin-stadt has been built from scratch, as have the pig iron furnaces and processing plants of a new factory a mile or so away. East Germany is not, of course, a viable economic whole, since it is cut off from most minerals and the heavy industries of the Rhine and Ruhr. Therefore, a great attempt has been made to build up the pig iron and steel industries. I doubt whether any other than a nationalised concern would have attempted this enterprise, for the iron ore has to be brought all the way from the Soviet Union and the hard coal from Poland. Nevertheless, within nine months the first furnace was at work, and there are now 6,000 workers on the site. Working hours are generally 45 a week here and in practically all trades in the D.D.R. When we visited six furnaces were at work producing 3,600 tons of pig iron per day.

The new town has 16,000 inhabitants, and is intended to have a population of 50,000.

The flats had the best external appearance of any that I have seen outside Sweden, with delightful porches below for shops, most of which are State shops. For personal services, the tailors, bootmakers and hairdressers have formed themselves into a Co-operative and appear to be giving satisfaction.

Perhaps the best feature of all was the new school for 800 which had superb equipment, all floors having a specialised rubber compound to drown noise, and nearly all the class rooms being insulated from each other. I do not think the school, taken

as a whole, was better than, say, Kiddbrooke, but there were notable features which I found extremely attractive.

At Dresden, 85 per cent of all the houses were destroyed in a raid just before the end of the war, in which at least 70,000 people were killed. Previously, the inhabitants were round about 600,000 and now about half a million. Between 1951 and 1955, 4,000 new flats have been built, but the rate of production is now increasing and it is hoped to provide 3,500 this year.

Dresden was, of course, very much a "show" town in the old days. I was interested to find that the famous paintings from the Art Gallery had all been taken to Leningrad, cleaned and brought back. They look splendid, especially the Sistine Madonna. The Gallery is being repaired and the collection of pictures is now one of the best in the world.

While in Dresden we also visited the famous Hygiene Museum. This corresponds to a combination of the Industrial Welfare Museum of our Ministry of Labour and a general exhibition about health matters. One interesting feature is the 'glass woman': a transparent model showing the principal parts of the body which are illuminated in turn, while a recorded voice describes them (the commentary can be done in nineteen languages). The Director is an enthusiast and in the workshop attached manufactures thousands of plastic skeletons, bones and other parts of the body, which are sent for teaching all over the country and even exported.

Our visit to the fine city of Leipzig was rushed, but we were impressed with the crowded streets and the excellent shops. The departmental stores were plentifully stocked with a wide range of goods and seemed well patronized. The damage here was also heavy, but more widespread and less noticeable than in Dresden. Nevertheless, 44,000 houses were totally destroyed. About 15,000 have been replaced so far. It is hoped to continue with 6,000 new houses a year. There are 16,000 families on the waiting list. One feature in the East German economy which helps to keep prices down is the general low level of rents. Nowhere did I find them exceed 10 per cent of income. In part, this is due to the fact that the State charges no interest, or low interest, on money advanced for housing. No one, of course, pays rates. There are some local taxes.

While in Leipzig we went to the High School of Sport. This is a college of University rank with 7,000 whole-time students — all who will be sports teachers. It is not yet complete, but occupies a huge building with seven vast gymnasias so far built. All main sports and athletics are taught, as well as subjects like the working, care and treatment of the human body. It owes its inception to the Prime Minister, who is particularly fond of sport. It was certainly a magnificent conception and helps to explain why some Iron Curtain countries are so good in International Sports Events.

(Reprinted from "London News", official paper of the London Labour Party, November 1957.)

MUSEUM THAT IS DIFFERENT

By Mary Wolfard

A visitor from a capitalist country to one building socialism is always finding new facets of what socialism means thrust under his nose. Take museums for example; to me a museum has always been a place to go and look at examples of past and present wonders of one kind and another, to marvel at past civilizations or current technical achievements, a place to acquire more or less fortuitously odd bits of knowledge in addition to a discerning eye. But no longer; I've seen a museum of a different kind.

The Museum of Feudal History is at Wernigerode, a medieval town near the Harz Mountains. It is housed in a castle which was originally built about 800 years ago and which served as a feudal stronghold during most of its history and particularly during the Peasant and Thirty Years Wars. Some of the cannons still stand on the terrace overlooking the surrounding countryside. It was the seat of the Princes of Stolberg-Wernigerode and the present castle, which was extensively rebuilt in the nineteenth

century at a cost of some 2½ million gold marks provided by the unfortunate residents of this domain, was occupied until 1929. From 1930 on some of the rooms were opened to the public as a money raising venture but were in no way arranged as a museum, being just in the state that their noble residents had left them. Despite the fact that the castle lies in the heart of a tourist area, only about 30,000 people a year availed themselves of this opportunity to see how the other half — or rather the other one-millionth — lived.

However after the defeat of fascism in what was then the Soviet Zone, it was decided to turn this castle into a real museum, a Museum of Feudal History. As the number of visitors has climbed to over a quarter of a million a year, apparently the public likes what it is getting — which is nothing less than an absorbing social survey of the Feudal period in Germany. It is a material presentation of historical materialism. So handled, history is dynamite.

This museum shows, by careful juxtaposition, the poverty and struggle of the masses in contrast to the flamboyant wealth of the feudal nobility. Only the banquet hall and the royal suite have been left in their original state; all the other rooms have been rearranged as period or exhibition rooms, the contents having been selected from the large number of castles which today are holiday centres, youth hostels, convalescent homes and so on and where these historic relics here have been replaced by modern furniture.

A notice at the entrance to the period rooms reads: "The following rooms show selected handicraft products from the classical period of feudalism. Visitors should be aware that although these objects were produced by craftsmen, they were not for the use of the people . . . In these rooms we honour, not those who lived here, but the people who produced these works of art."

A renaissance room, dating from 1550, is introduced with an appropriate quotation from Engels on the characteristics of the period, which in Germany was marked by the Peasant War and the activities of such men as Luther and his great revolutionary contemporary, Thomas Muentzer. This was a time of great creative initiative and in addition to furniture, the exhibition contains paintings from the outstanding Cranach school.

Other rooms show Baroque, Rococo, Louis XVI, Empire and Biedermeier period furniture. The banquet hall retains all its pompous lack of taste and looks as it did when last used in 1929 at a reception for the late King Fuad of Egypt who returned from a gambling trip to Monte Carlo with the Prince of Stolberg-Wernigerode. It is dominated by three enormous paintings done by a Munich professor which, according to an explanatory notice, depict (in favourable light) episodes from the family history of the princes of Stolberg-Wernigerode. A sidelight on the mentality of the nobility of the times is that although the episodes painted date back to the fifteenth century, the

castle was painted as it appeared after rebuilding and extension in the nineteenth century, the original not being considered splendid enough for these days of growing imperialism.

The mentality of the Kaiser Wilhelm period (1860—1918) is also clearly to be seen in the royal suite. A notice tells us that visits from reigning monarchs were a real high point in the life of the nobility and a whole suite was set aside for crowned heads. Lesser fry were accorded simpler quarters. "Birth, titles, uniform and decorations determined a person's worth . . . These feudal lords used new techniques not to improve life's amenities, but for the creation of fantastic objects . . . What can one say of a stove made in the shape of a headless knight's armour . . ."

A further terse comment on this period is the small but effective display of cartoons from a contemporary satirical weekly showing the arrogance of the wealthy and their hangers-on. One cartoon for example shows an officer escorting an over-dressed woman while a servant awaits orders. The caption is "I don't know what these people would do if they didn't have us to serve".

As the original military and court uniforms are displayed nearby, the spectator is induced to look at history from a materialist point of view.

Among the many exhibits in this museum is one dealing with the Peasant War. Alongside contemporary writings giving the peasant's demands are the originals of Luther's many verbal attacks on the "murderous and plundering peasant hordes" as well as Muentzer's attacks on Luther — "that easy-living flesh of Wittenberg". The weapons of the peasants — mainly hand-weapons of the sword and halberd type — are contrasted

with the cannons of the nobility. A knight in full armour costing the equivalent of 45 cows fought peasants clad in their poor homespun garments and light shoes. It was interesting to see that the opening lines of a Peasant War song are the almost exact equivalent of the old English jingle:

"When Adam delved and Eve span
Who was then the nobleman?"

Bearing in mind the role of the Junkers in recent German history, one can only agree with the German philosopher Alexander von Humboldt when he said — and this quotation is written large on the wall — "The great defect in German history is that the ideas of the Peasant War have not been put into practice." Of course today they have been put into practice in the German Democratic Republic although unfortunately not in the Bonn Republic.

Another section dealing with early capitalism shows how the feudal lords went into industry; the Prince Stolberg foundry began production in 1437. Many of the feudal princes received from the Emperor the right to coin their own money. The church was also busy money-making by the sale of indulgences and other means. The terrorism involved in the burning of witches (30 women and 2 men were burned at the stake in Wernigerode alone) discouraged opposition. Following the 1484 papal bull, thousands of people were tortured and put to death throughout Germany in the original witchhunt. Many of these torture instruments can be seen in the dungeons which date from the early 12th century. The rack, the thumb-screws and the chains are all there; it is a relief to emerge from this underground hell on to the terrace and to reflect that only in a socialist state is such a museum possible.



SPUTNIK STAMP

The German Democratic Republic was the first country to depict Sputnik, the baby moon, on a stamp. The 10 pfennig stamp, coloured grey-blue, was issued on November 7th, the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Revolution in Russia. It was designed by Professor E. R. Vogenauer of Berlin, and shows the earth satellite, a section of the earth's surface, and in the background the moon.

The stamp, issued in connection with the International Geophysical Year, bears the date October 4th 1957, when the first satellite was placed in orbit by the Soviet Union.

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

This notebook must begin with a word of apology to those readers who missed the issue of this paper which should have appeared on November 8th. Asian flu has been as virulent in Germany as in other parts of the world, and it swept your editor off to bed just when he should have been in the thick of getting out the paper. As some compensation this issue is a little thicker than usual.

Lots of Work

Quite a lot of space in the present issue is taken up with biographical notes on some of the men who make up the West German parliament and cabinet: the listing may look simple, but there is a surprising lot of work behind it, since most of the people concerned gloss over their Nazi past in the latest books of reference. Thus even a short two line entry may entail searching through great piles of old Nazi reference books and newspaper files. Research would have been easier if we could have used the complete membership files of the Nazi party, but unfortunately they are held by the American authorities, and I rather doubt whether they would have granted us the necessary permission.

However, the rehabilitation of Nazis and militarists in West Germany is going ahead at such a pace that it may not be long before political figures are once again proudly proclaiming their former membership in the Nazi party and the storm troops. This may look like a fantasy at first sight, but it is a development foreshadowed by the way they have been revising their autobiographies since 1949, when the first West German Parliament was elected.

"Agonising Reappraisal"

Year by year, the various biographies have been revised, to include more details of war services in Hitler's army, and to expunge any possible references to "resistance activity" which they included in their early post-war autobiographies, when it still seemed opportune to claim to have been anti-fascist.

Let us take for example Professor Eduard Wahl, a Christian Democratic member of Parliament since 1949. In the first Parliamentary Handbook issued in 1949 he scraped up something to look like a resistance

By John Peet

record, and stated: "Forcibly incorporated into the Wehrmacht because politically incriminated." By 1953 he had let this excuse drop, and simply recorded himself as "war participant". In the handbook on the current parliament, which has not yet been published, I fully expect him to be naming proudly what rank he held, which battles he took part in, and any medals he may have won.

Willy Max Rademacher, of the Free Democratic Party, claimed in 1949 that he had been "politically persecuted between 1933 and 1945". By 1953 he had completely forgotten this claim.

The question of upgrading military experience is best shown by the case of Dr Erich Mende, also a Free Democrat. In the 1949 handbook he said simply and shortly "Participation in World War Two". By 1953 this had become insufficient, and he proudly registered: "Service as front-line officer from 1939-45, finally as regimental commander. Twice wounded."

If there are any students of political science reading this who are looking for the subject for a thesis, I would humbly suggest the subject: "Political Developments in Post-War West Germany as Reflected in the autobiographies of Public Figures."

By - Products

The research into the past histories of some of these men who may hold the future of Europe in their hands has turned up a mass of material on some of their racist utterances which could not be compressed into the limitations of one-paragraph biographies. There is for instance Rudolf Vogel, a journalist by profession. In November 1939 he wrote simply and succinctly: "The Poles are subhuman". Two months earlier, on September 9th 1939, commenting on a speech by Alfred Rosenberg, Hitler's racial expert, this Christian Democrat wrote: "The only possible solution: all fifteen million Jews must be sent to Devil's Island... Rosenberg plainly stated that the existence of a Jewish state as a state form with equal rights cannot be co-ordinated with a well-regulated living-together of the peoples of the earth."

Earlier still, on March 23rd 1939, just after Hitler's rape of Czecho-

slovakia, Herr Vogel wrote: "The inevitable process of reparation of injustices done by Versailles is now proceeding with incredible rapidity since the seizure of power and the return of the eastern territories under the courageous hand of the Fuehrer. Saarland, Ostmark (Austria), Sudeten German Gau, Bohemia and Moravia — the German revival proceeds in a rushing succession of events which robs Paris and London of their breath."

On the Boil

On the outbreak of war on September 1st 1939, Herr Vogel positively boiled over with enthusiasm, and wrote: "We who heard this speech (by Hitler) could not do other than decide to follow him through thick and thin".

Seeing that Rudolf Vogel is today a member of the West German Parliament, and a fanatical supporter of Chancellor Adenauer, there is a certain piquancy in something else which he wrote on June 13th 1940: "Under a parliamentary system it is quite normal that stock-exchange speculators and members of parliament should become Prime Minister, should lead their countries to destruction, and then take off in a plane for the security of the United States."

I could go on to fill whole issues of GERMAN REPORT with Herr Vogel's Nazi commentaries: he seems to have been a very productive journalist.

Key Post

Not only was he elected as a Christian Democrat to the first West German parliament in 1949, but he promptly got a key post as Chairman of the Press Radio and Film Commission, in which position he made a practice of extending large government subsidies to militarist films and approving grants of government money to the frankly aggressive "Soldaten Zeitung", the Soldiers' Newspaper. And when the Bonn correspondent of one fairly independent West German newspaper happened to hint at Herr Vogel's rather Nazi-tinted past, this estimable character sent a black-mailing letter to the editor suggesting in no uncertain terms that the time had come to change the Bonn correspondent.

The name "Vogel" means bird. I feel that this is one birdie that can bear some watching.